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SPECIAL CONSUMER NOTICE
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NOTICE

On 1 June 1987 FBIS will begin publication of reorganized and renamed DAILY REPORTS. The following list details the changes being made in the eight volumes.

I. CHINA DAILY REPORT — Contents unchanged

II. EASTERN EUROPE DAILY REPORT — Contents unchanged

III. SOVIET UNION DAILY REPORT — Contents unchanged

IV. EAST ASIA DAILY REPORT — Renamed; formerly ASIA & PACIFIC DAILY REPORT; contents unchanged

V. NEAR EAST & SOUTH ASIA DAILY REPORT — Renamed; formerly MIDDLE EAST & AFRICA DAILY REPORT; contents include:

- Middle East & South Asia Review
- Inter-Arab Affairs
- Islamic Affairs
- Palestinian Affairs
- OPEC Affairs
- South Asian Regional Affairs
- Arab Africa
  - Algeria
  - Chad
  - Egypt
  - Libya
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  - Morocco
  - Sudan
  - Tunisia
  - Western Sahara
- Arabian Peninsula
  - Bahrain
  - Kuwait
  - Oman
  - PDRY
  - Qatar
  - Saudi Arabia
  - United Arab Emirates
  - Yemen Arab Republic
- Iraq
- Israel
- Jordan
- Lebanon
- Syria
- South Asia
  - Afghanistan
  - Bangladesh
  - India
  - Iran
  - Maldives
  - Nepal & Bhutan
  - Pakistan
  - Sri Lanka

VI. LATIN AMERICA DAILY REPORT — Contents unchanged

(continued on back of report)

FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

7 APRIL 1987

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian Offensive, Iraqi Raids — Iranian forces captured fresh territory, inflicted over 2,000 casualties, and destroyed 50 Iraqi vehicles in a new offensive launched east of Basra 7 April, IRNA reported. An Iraqi plane was downed over the battlefront and Iranian aircraft bombed Iraqi positions in the area. The new operation, codenamed Karbala'-8, is in response to recent Iraqi attacks on Iranian oil installations in the Persian Gulf, the agency said.

Iraqi planes launched strikes on Iranian oil installations the same morning, according to a 7 April communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. The targets were Sirri Island in the southern part of the Gulf and the Cyrus, Nowruz, and Ardeshir oil fields in the north. The communique also claimed that five Iranian boats were sunk while unsuccessfully attempting to approach Al-'Amiq port.

An earlier Iraqi communique had announced raids against similar targets in the Gulf 6 April, stating that Iraqi planes attacked pipelines linking the Ganaveh complex with Khark Island, the Cyrus oil field platform, loading platforms in the Ardeshir oil field, and three boats in the Nowruz oil field area. However, Tehran radio maintained that Iranian air defenses shot down two Iraqi aircraft and prevented the Iraqis from carrying out their missions in the Gulf that day. An Iraqi spokesman cited by INA denied the Iranian claim, stating that all the Iraqi planes had returned safely after carrying out "destructive strikes."

Arab League View — Commenting on the Arab League Council deliberations on the war, the Iraqi foreign minister said there was "unanimous" agreement on a draft resolution expressing solidarity with Iraq, according to Tunis radio.

Iran

Policy on U.S. — Iran will resume normal relations with Washington as soon as it is sure that the United States no longer poses a threat to the Islamic Revolution, Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani stated in a press interview cited by IRNA. Regarding the sale of U.S. arms to Iran, he accused the United States of "irty tricks" in overcharging Iran and funneling the profits to the Nicaraguan contras. The Americans also covertly involved Israel in the deal in order to tarnish Iran's image, he maintained. On the Western hostages in Lebanon, he announced that Iran is still ready to help secure the release of hostages "on humanitarian grounds," although it exercises "no authority" in that country. He also stressed that there would be no need to continue the war with Iraq if the superpowers "make some changes" in the Iraqi leadership.

Release of Egyptians — A Foreign Ministry source disclosed that Iran will release 16 Egyptians suspected of spying for Iraq and hand them over to the Islamic Society of Egypt, IRNA reported. The release of the Egyptian fishermen was in response to appeals from Egyptian clergymen, including Shaykh 'Umar 'Abd al-Rahman and Shaykh Hafiz Salamah.

Egyptian Elections

Early results show a lead for the ruling National Democratic Party (NDP), MENA reported 7 April, citing preliminary estimates from the Matruh Governorate. The NDP secretary general had earlier expressed confidence the result would be tantamount to a plebiscite for re-electing President Husni Mubarak, according to the agency. Meanwhile, the interior minister asserted that "only some isolated incidents" had marred the general calm which prevailed throughout the election, Cairo radio reported. Official sources cited by MENA likewise denied opposition charges that the voting was rigged and that opposition party representatives were prevented from entering the voting centers. MENA accused opposition parties of attempting to forge ballots in their favor. In another election development, the information minister maintained that the brief detention of British journalist David Hirst in Banha district was the result of Hirst's failure to obtain official approval for his visit to a polling center, MENA reported.

In contrast to the official view, opposition sources cited by AFP alleged widespread malpractice in favor of the NDP, noting instances of harassment and violence against their candidates. A neo-Wafd Party official described the "fake" election as "the worst" in Egyptian political history. According to Beirut radio, Egyptian "security sources" revealed that security forces were under strict instructions not to allow opposition party representatives into the polling centers.

Sudan

In a speech marking the second anniversary of the overthrow of former President Ja'far Numayri, Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi appealed to the SPLA to observe a 2-week cease-fire and to hold talks with the government inside Sudan or in any other neutral country, SUNA reported. Al-Mahdi stressed the need for a peaceful solution of Sudan's problems and he promised that the Islamic laws introduced by Numayri will be completely removed. He also thanked Libya for having given Sudan four MiG-23 aircraft.

The SPLA's clandestine radio broadcast a statement by John Garang the same day in which the SPLA leader stressed that any resumption of dialogue should start from within the framework established by the Koka Dam declaration. In another development, the radio warned international civil airlines against flying over towns controlled by the SPLA because airliners will henceforth be liable to SPLA antiaircraft fire in these areas. An SPLA spokesman cited by the radio explained this is because Sudanese Air Force planes and "other mercenary aircraft assisting the Khartoum Government" have been using internationsl

air routes before branching off near SPLA-controlled towns to execute bombing missions. The SPLA will consider only these military aircraft as its targets, the spokesman said, but a civil airliner could be shot down accidentally, especially now that the SPLA has the capacity to shoot down high-flying aircraft.

Palestinian Affairs

Camps in Beirut — Supply trucks entered Shatila and Burj al-Barajinah 6 April in accordance with the agreement reached the previous day, Beirut radio reported. However, the cease-fire was violated when a Palestinian was killed by sniper fire while unloading supplies in Shatila, AFP noted.

Moscow Visit — A Palestinian delegation comprising representatives of Fatah, the DFLP, and the Palestinian Communist Party was received at the CPSU Central Committee's International Department during a 4-5 April visit to Moscow, TASS noted.

Israel

Peres Tour — Both Jerusalem television and *Ha'aretz* reported that Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres is planning to meet with a senior Soviet official during his current European tour, which began with his arrival in Madrid 5 April. Members of the Israeli delegation to the Socialist International Convention in Rome stated that the meeting will be with CPSU Central Committee member Karen Brutents, according to *Yedi'ot Aharonot*.

Arab-Israeli Violence — Two Arabs were wounded by shots fired by an Israeli whose vehicle was pelted with stones in East Jerusalem, according to Jerusalem radio.

DRA

"Those who are still in opposition" can take an active part in the discussion about the draft constitution and they can criticize it and present their own proposals, PDPA General Secretary Najibullah stated in remarks broadcast by Kabul radio. The constitutional commission will "carefully study" all views, proposals, and criticisms it receives, Najibullah promised, and it will be willing to hold a "creative and purposeful" dialogue with the opposition in the event of any serious disagreements.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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Najibullah Discusses Draft Constitution

LD062028 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 6 Apr 87

[Text] The fourth session of the commission on the DRA draft constitution was held today at Delkush Palace with the participation of Comrade Najib, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee.

Haji Mohammad Chamkani, acting chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council; Comrade Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers; a number of Politburo members and secretaries of the PPA Central Committee took part at this session.

A BIA correspondent reports that, during the session Aborrahim Hatef, chairman of the DRA National Front Central Council and head of the working committee for drafting the DRA constitution presented the committee's report.

Later, Comrade Najib, in a brief conversation, assessed the work of the session and said:

[Begin Najibullah recording] In our country, a great and useful work is being carried out to complete the legal basis of the state. During the last 7 years, new normative documents, which met the aims and tasks of the revolution, have been approved in almost all theeconomic, social, cultural, state, political aspects and military structure. Now the time has come to approve the country's constitution, that is the DRA constitution.

The commission of the constitution, especially its work committee, under the chairmanship of esteemed Hatef, have carried out great works. The members of the working committee have familiarized themselves with the experiences of the basic structure of our country and a number of Islamic countries, which are on the development path of non-capitalism, as well as many of the socialist countries, primarily the Soviet Union.

The resolution of the PDPA on the basic principles of the future constitution, has been carefully studied. The proposals of the prominent lawyers of Afghanistan, the foundation of the DRA basic principles, and the traditional democratic forms of the jergas, as well as the norms of the Human Rights Declaration and other international and legal documents, which are acceptable to the DRA, have been considered.

Therefore, the draft of the constitution has been created based on extensive practical material and a good theoretical foundation. This draft is the manifestation of the popular and deeply convincing character of the draft of the DRA constitution, as well as secureiy establishing the future growth of our state.

The draft of the constitution, which is being presented for your assessment, first of all contains the basic principles of national reconciliation and unity of all the national, democratic, and progressive forces in a broad spectrum in the country, based on the broad program of joint action in connection with the establishment of peace and tranquillity.

This draft is the logical continuation of party and state policy on the issues of national reconciliation and should be also transformed into its basic means [wasela].

The draft has considered comprehensively the national and democratic stage in the development of the April Revolution and its long and transferable character; and reflects the complexities of the present day society of Afghanistan.

The revolutionary transformation, which is being advanced in the interest of masses -- such as land and water reform, elimination of social unequalities and illiteracy, and a campaign against disease -- have been emphasized in this draft.

The democratic right of the citizens and their responsibilities have been broadly reflected in the draft of the constitution, and in connection with the national issue, taking into consideration the present stage, has been [words indistinct] at complete maximum.

The draft, has catered adequately to the people's traditional customs and their interests and the (?issue) of the sacred religion of Islam.

The activity of our commission will naturally not end after the conclusion of work on the draft of the constitution.

The work of the commission will enter a new, equally important stage. The organization of a broad and purposful discussion on the draft by the inhabitants of the country, all the state and social organizations, and all the toilers' collectives lies ahead.

As is known, those who are still in opposition can take part in the discussion on the constitution. We have spoken about this many times. We are inviting all our compatriots to take part in the discussion on the constitution, this declaration of national reconciliation.

We say to our opposition: Here is the draft of the country's constitution for you. Take active part in discussing it. Criticize the draft and present your proposals. The commission will carefully study all your views, proposals, and criticisms, and will take the necessary steps concerning them. If any serious disagreement occurs concerning the draft, the commission is ready to talk about the proposals and will study and discuss such disagreement during a creative and puprosful discussion. [end recording]

Soviet Public Health Delegation Departs

LD070615 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0426 GMT 7 Apr 87

[Text] Kabul, April 6, *Bakhtar* — The delegation of the Ministry of Public Health of the Soviet Union, headed by Oleg Schepin, first deputy minister of public health of that country, which was here for a friendly and official visit left Kabul for Moscow today.

The delegation was seen off at the Kabul International Airport by Shir Bahadur, minister of public health of the DRA and number of officials and employees of that ministry.

During its stay in Kabul the delegation exchanged views with the concerned authorities of the DRA regarding expansion of mutual cooperation between the two countries in the field of public health and a protocol was signed in the respect.

DIE WELT Interviews Resistance Leader Abdul Haq

DW031055 Bonn DIE WELT in German 3 Apr 87 p 5

[Walter H. Rueb article: " 'Independent Action by Big Powers in Afghanistan Will Fail' "]

[Text] Bonn — The appeal of the communist regime in Kabul for national reconciliation, and party chief Najibullah's cease-fire offer, continues to be considered by the Afghanistan resistance movement a Moscow propaganda maneuver. The alleged Soviet withdrawal is considered a deception.

The attempt of foreign powers to achieve an end to the 7-year Hindu Kush war without cooperation of the resistance parties is also rejected.

"If the United States, the Soviet Union, and whoever want to set up a so-called interim government in Kabul against the will of the Afghan people, additional grave problems will arise in Afghanistan," says guerrilla leader Abdul Haq, who is in Bonn for a private visit to Germany.

In saying this, he hinted at rumors about secret negotiations between the two world powers on an interim government in Kabul headed by former King Zahir Shah, now living in exile in Rome. Abdul Haq: "The Afghan people are the only ones to decide. An independent attempt by the United States and the Soviet Union to achieve a solution is condemned to failure."

The 28-year old Abdul Haq is, next to Ahmad Shah Mas'ud, Afghanistan's most significant guerrilla leader. In and around Kabul he is in command of roughly 5,000 resistance fighters who work as businessmen, officials, artisans, officers, and policemen, but who, as city guerrillas, make attacks on Soviet headquarters, weapons and ammunition depots, embassies of communist states, Red Army and Kabul forces bases, power plants oil depots, and the airport.

The media calls him "Breaker of Russians" and "Afghan Lion." In 1985 he was received by President Reagan in Washington as well as by the Senate and Congress. In 1986 he met with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

U.S. Senators and representatives were so impressed by Abdul Haq that they gave him a standing ovation. They were right. Abdul Haq, surrounded by 16 Soviet and Afghan regiments, 1,500 Russian bases, armies of KGB agents and those of the Afghan intelligence service, KHAD, has organized in that city of 2,000,000 people the armed resistance to the aggressor.

Abdul Haq comments on the alleged secret negotiations between the United States and the Soviet Union: "Agreements made behind our backs do not solve the problem. Those participating in such negotiations are also guilty of continuing the bloodbath. The resistance movement will put its weapons down only when the last Soviet Russian has left Afghanistan.

"However, we are skeptical. Reality in Kabul is different. The Russians are building a railroad to the Soviet Union, they are extending the airport, and they are building new quarters for officers, personnel, and officials."

The guerrilla leader is not at all concerned about the consequences of not adhering to a peaceful solution negotiated between Moscow and Washington. As to the remark that under American pressure Pakistan could discontinue its help to the resistance movement and possibly close its frontiers to Afghanistan, Abdul Haq says: "The resistance movement started the fight empty-handed against the communist aggressor 7 years ago. It can continue the fight without foreign help."

Abdul Haq accused Moscow and Kabul of having initiated or started talks with a number of various persons and groups with the aim of finding a political solution and of installing an interim government.

"First, with former King Zahir Shah. So far he has neither rejected Najibullah's offer to return, nor Moscow's offer. Moscow also sought talks with Afghan resistance parties in Pakistan, particularly with those that appear to be anti-American," said Abdul Haq.

Asked by *Die Welt* whether it was, among others, the fundamentalist Hezb-e Eslami party of Gulbuddin hikmatyar, who never denied their dislike of the United states, and who on the anniversary of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, always display anti-American slogans in demonstrations, Abdul Haq responded: "I will not mention names. I have no evidence."

According to Haq, the Soviets also contacted prominent politicians of the Khalq wing of the Afghan government party, the Afghan exile government set up in 1986 in the United States, and prominent guerrilla leaders.

"You are a great guerrilla leader," said *Die Welt* to Haq. "Did the Soviets contact you?" The answer was short: "No comment."

Abdul Haq appealed to the Western world to condemn Moscow's attacks against Pakistan. "The attacks are many. India is being strengthened; along the Afghanistan frontier, Pakistani villages are bombed; in Pakistan terrorist acts are carried out by agents; antigovernment parties are stirred up; and pro-Soviet groups are supported. All this is done with the goal of intimidating Pakistan..."

President States Food Reserves 'Sufficient'

BK070128 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 6 Apr 87

[Text] President Ershad says that food reserves in government warehouses are sufficient to meet demand and there is no reason for apprehension. He was addressing the deputy commissioners and food officials at his secretariat in Dhaka today. He said the only thing required is to ensure the supply of food grain and monitor the situation closely. The president asked the authorities concerned to ensure that there is no delay in the supply of food grain due to procedural matters or formalities. He stated the situation is fully under the control of the government.

The deputy commissioners and the Food Ministry have been asked to coordinate their work so that no area suffers from any food shortage until the harvest of boro [variety of] paddy. The deputy commissioners will hold direct communications with the food monitoring system and keep themselves informed about the day-to-day food situation.

The president said he does not like to see any part of the country suffer from a food shortage when there are sufficient reserves of food grain in the country.

The deputy commissioners were also asked to make the khas [government-vested] land distribution program a success by identifying and recovering khas land for proper distribution [among landless people].

Thirty-five thousand [metric] tons of food grain have arrived in the country during the last few days. A ship carrying 25,000 tons of wheat reached Chittagong outer anchorage on Saturday [4 April]. 10,000 tons of rice from Pakistan have also reached the port.

New Barter Protocol Signed With Czechoslovakia

BK060158 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 6 Apr 87

[Text] Bangladesh and Czechoslovakia have signed a new barter protocol envisaging each-way trade of goods worth 2 crore 20 lakh dollars. This is 83 percent higher than the last barter deal. The protocol was signed in Dhaka yesterday.

Under this barter deal, principal items of export to Czechosslovakia are jute goods, jute yarn, raw jute, tea, hide and skin, [words indistinct] and finished leather, ready-made garments and tobacco. The main items of import from Czechoslovakia will be sugar; pig iron; zinc ingot; refractory material; spare parts; laboratory, hospital, and scientific equipment; drug and medicine; agrochemical products; and pesticides.

Border Talks With India Conclude 6 Apr

BK061724 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 6 Apr 87

[Text] Border talks between Bangladesh and India ended in Dhaka today. During the meeting they reiterated their resolve to cooperate in curbing subversive activities by the so called Shanti Bahini [Peace Army] miscreants along their common frontiers in the Hill Tracts area. The Bangladesh Rifles chief and leader of the Bangladesh delegation, Major General Shafi Ahmad Chowdhury, told newsmen that the two sides agreed to alert their respective forces to guard against the miscreants in the border areas of the whole track. The chief of the Indian Border Security Force, Mr M.P. Mishra, who led his country at the talks was also present during the briefing at the airport.

Both the (?sides) described the talks as very useful. They said the discussions were held in resolving their common border problem. The Indian delegation (?has now) left Dhaka for home.

SANGBAD Calls On Pakistan To Share Mutual Wealth

BK301105 Dhaka SANGBAD in Bengali 23 Mar 87

[Editorial: "To Recover Debts From Pakistan"]

[Text] The country has been independent for nearly 16 years but still Bangladesh has not been able to recover from Pakistan thus far its due share of the wealth when they were united. Rather than see it as Bangladesh's failure to recover the debt, it should be seen as Islamabad's reluctance to pay up. Over and above this issue, Pakistan has burdened us with 300,000 stranded Pakistanis.

Before making any effort to recover the wealth from Pakistan, we have to first determine the amount of this debt. It has not yet been assessed because of Pakistan's intransigence.

Everyone knows that the wealth of Bangladesh was the source of economic development of then West Pakistan. A major portion of Pakistan's income was derived from the exports of jute, jute goods, and other products of erstwhile "East Pakistan" and now Bangladesh, but the lion's share of income was utilized to develop West Pakistan. Moreover, whatever the country received as foreign aid was also invested in West Pakistan.

Bangladesh is not asking for charity from Pakistan. We want our legitimate share from undivided Pakistan and the fair distribution of wealth existing at that time. They have beautified themselves at our expense and, therefore, we have no sympathy for them.

When after the partition in 1947 Pakistan asked India to share the wealth, Mahatma Gandhi not only supported this, but also fasted for this cause. Thus, the government of India was forced to pay Pakistan its due share. On what grounds does Pakistan renege in repaying Bangladesh's share?

It is obvious that the tactics Pakistan has adopted in this regard are not very congenial for solving the problem. It was decided in 1980 that the two countries should set up working groups to examine all aspects of this issue. Is it not a fact that Pakistan is using delaying tactics when after 7 years it has neither formed the working group nor taken part in talks despite pressure from Bangladesh?

In this situation, we ask that the government take more active steps. If the need arises, the government should raise the issue at international forums as well as intensify its diplomatic efforts.

Instead of settling our share of the wealth, Pakistan has put on the shoulder of this country the responsibility for a few thousand Pakistanis, known as Biharis, for the last 16 years. At a time when we are already straining under the pressure of our own population, these stranded Pakistanis are an additional burden for us.

It is not known when the assurance given by the Pakistan's minister of state for foreign affairs — that the stranded Pakistanis will be repatriated as soon as possible — will come to realilty. As 16 years have already passed, we are not encouraged by their assurance of "as soon as possible". Thus, we prefer a definite timetable rather than such assurances. It is Pakistan's responsibility to see from where the money needed for their repatriation will come.

Troop Withdrawal at Pakistan Border on Schedule

BK070913 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 7 Apr 87

[Text] A major part of the troop withdrawal by India and Pakistan from the Rajasthan, Sind, and the Rann of Kutch sectors has been completed.

All India Radio correspondent understands the troop pullout, which began on the 17th of last month, has been according to schedule drawn up by the two sides to de-escalate tension along the Indo-Pakistan borders. An agreement for the purpose was signed in Islamabad on 2 March.

The directors general of military operations of India and Pakistan have expressed satisfaction over the return of their respective troops to peace time locations within the fixed time frame. They have been in touch with each other on the hot line.

Judicial Probe Ordered on Hiring U.S. Agency

BK061406 Delhi General Overseas Service
in English 1330 GMT 6 Apr 87

[Text] A commission of inquiry consisting of Mr Justice M.P. Thacker and Mr Justice S. Natrajan, judges of the Supreme Court, has been constituted by the government to inquire into the Fairfax issue [Government hiring of U.S. agency to investigate overseas funds of some Indians]. Mr Justice Thacker will head the commission.

Announcing the appointment of the commission in the Lower House of Parliament this evening, the minister of state for finance, Mr Brahma Dutt, said it will submit its report within 3 months.

The report of the commission will be laid on the table of the Parliament. The commission shall enquire into the events and circumstances leading to the arrangements entered into with the Fairfax group of the United States by the government. It will look into the nature, authority and purpose of this engagement, (?events) and conditions in which the group engaged and whether any payment was authorized or made to the Fairfax group.

Earlier, the house discussed the prime minister's statement announcing the decision to appoint a judicial commission to inquire into the issue. The motion for discussion was moved Mr Somnath Chatterji, CPI-M.

The house also discussed a substitute motion moved by Mr Bhattan Shriramamurthy, Telugu Desam, that the house may appoint a house committee to look into the Fairfax affair.

Initiating the discussion, Mr Chatterji argued that the government has evolved a time-consuming process to defuse the issue and take the matter out of the jurisdiction of Parliament. He also said most of the points raised by the opposition members were not answered and it is still not clear when and how the Fairfax company was appointed and at what level of the government the decision was taken. He demanded the appointment of a parliament committee to look into the matter.

Refuting the argument, the ruling party members said that the probe by a parliament committee is likely to bring out the truth as the arguments will be based on party lines. The decision will also be political whereas a judicial commission is more likely to get the truth as it will be independent. They said that an inquiry by a judge will be the most appropriate to know the truth in the Fairfax affair.

Further Reportage on Visit of Angolan President

New Economic Order Discussed

BK030347 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 3 Apr 87

[Text] India and Angola will continue to strive for greater South-South cooperation and the establishment of a new international economic order.

This affirmation was made by President Giani Zail Singh and the visiting Angolan president, Mr Jose Eduardo dos Santos, in their speeches at the banquet given by the Indian president in honor of the visiting dignitary. They observed that the world economic situation is bedeviled by intensifying inequalities and the growing gap between the North and the South. This constitutes another important threat to international peace and security.

In his speech Giani Zail Singh reminded the international community that it should mobilize world public opinion in favor of comprehensive mandatory sanctions against the racist South African regime. He pointed out that the situation in South Africa is assuming alarming proportions since the Botha regime is not prepared to open political dialogue for setting up majority rule. Recalling the role of the Africa Fund, Giani Zail Singh hoped that it will succeed in extending support to the frontline states and southern African liberation movements.

Cooperation Protocols Signed

BK031728 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network
in English 1600 GMT 3 Apr

[Text] India and Angola have signed two protocols for economic and technical cooperation. The documents were signed in the wake of high-level talks conducted between the two countries for the past 3 days.

[Begin recording] The bilateral relations between India and Angola reached a high point with the signing of two protocols for cooperation in economic and technical fields. Under one protocol, India will depute experts to help Angola strengthen its economic and technological base. Angolan personnel will also receive training in India as part of program of skills formation in that country. The second protocol is on collaboration in post and telecommunications. India will assist the major Frontline States in building better communication services.

The Angolan minister for external affairs, Mr (M. Binda) [name as heard], and the vice minister for communications, Mr Robeiro,

signed on behalf of their country and the minister of state for external affairs, Mr Eduardo Faleiro, initialed on behalf of India.

Later addressing a crowded press conference, the Angolan president, Mr Eduardo dos Santos, said that the current visit has further strengthened the existing bilateral relations. He said India and Angola have identity of views in a number of international issues. Both of them have suffered from colonial oppression and the contributions of the people of India in their liberation struggle cannot be forgotten.

Referring to the situation as prevailed on (?grounds) in Angola, Mr dos Santos said that the fascists of the racist regime of South Africa are continuing the acts of destabilization and holding on to the occupied territory in Angola. Cuban troops are there out of a friendly invitation and it never crossed the borders of Angola. Strict imposition of comprehensive sanctions and increasing political and diplomatic isolation of South Africa are the steps to oust the apartheid regime and give the liberation struggle its final push. [end recording]

Joint Statement Issued

BK041005 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 4 Apr 87

[Text] India is to give two credits worth 10 crore rupees to Angola for purchasing consumer durables and capital goods from this country. The two protocols have been signed between the two sides on deputation of Indian personnel to Angola and cooperation in the field of communication.

The agreed minutes were signed by the minister of state for external affairs, Mr Eduardo Faleiro, and the minister of external commerce of Angola, Mr Ismael Gaspar Martins, in New Delhi today.

The two sides exchanged views on Indian assistance for setting up medical facilities in the Angolan capital and advisory services on restoration of monuments in Luanda.

A joint statement issued at the end of the state visit of the Angolan president expressed satisfaction at the outcome of the visit and described it as a new landmark in the relations between the two countries.

The two sides called on the international community to mobilize world public opinion in favor of comprehensive mandatory sanctions against South Africa. India and Angola expressed satisfaction at the setting up of the Africa Fund.

As members of the Nonaligned Movement, the two sides fully supported the six-nation initiative for a comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty and prevention of arms race in outer space.

The two countries also agreed to further intensify cooperation among the developing countries and to work for establishment of a new international economic order.

Earlier, the Angolan president, Mr Jose Eduardo dos Santos, was given a ceremonial send-off at the end of his 4-day state visit to the country. He was seen off at the airport by the president, Giani Zail Singh; the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi; and other dignitaries.

250 Members of Sikh Students Federation Arrested

BK060336 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 7 Apr 87

[Text] In Punjab, about 250 members of the All India Sikh Students Federation have been arrested on charges of arson, intimidation, and other violent activities.

According to an official spokesman, the arrests have been made from different parts of the state. He did not rule out the possibility of some more arrests.

The spokesman said that members of this organization have been setting ablaze liquor (?vans) and some other small shops run in wooden structures known as kokar.

They have also been forcibly collecting funds and issuing threats to people mostly in rural areas.

The spokesman said that the police and security forces all over the state have been alerted and a close watch is being maintained on the activities of such elements.

Punjab Situation Reviewed; Terrorists Kill 3

BK061600 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 6 Apr 87

[Text] The latest law and order situation in Punjab was reviewed at a high-level meeting in Chandigarh today. The chief minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, presided.

The meeting decided to give an award of 25,000 rupees to anyone providing information which could help trace out the SGPC [Sikh Gurdwaras Prabandhak, Sikh temples management committee] secretary, Mr Avinashi Singh, and the medical superintendent of Guru Ramdas Sarai Hospital, Amritsar, Mr B.S. Brar.

They have been missing under mysterious circumstances for the last few days.

The meeting took a serious view of the efforts by some elements to hinder running of certain business in the state.

Meanwhile, in Amritsar District a middle-aged couple was shot dead by suspected terrorists in village Maliwal near Gharinda early this morning.

In another incident in village Khedi in District Sangrur a police constable was shot dead by suspected terrorists.

NEPAL

Banned Nepali Congress Party Claims Lead in Voting

BK071006 Hong Kong AFP in English 0959 GMT 7 Apr 87

[Text] Kathmandu, April 17 (AFP) — Preliminary counting of votes in municipal elections here last Friday showed candidates of the banned Nepali Congress Party in the lead in the capital, a Nepali Congress source said. Nepali Congress mayorial candidate Haribol Bhribol Bhattarai was leading pro-government candidate Ravi Charan Shrestha and pro-leftist candidate Sita Ram Maskey, a spokesman for the banned party said.

Announced election results showed the Nepali Congress to have been defeated in more than 90 percent of the local civic polls outside the capital, as the party was squeezed between government and leftist candidates, observers said.

The banned Nepali Congress is contesting the civic posts on a partisan basis, despite an official ban on party politics under the country's partyless panchayat system of assemblies. This is the first time the Congress has participated in an election since the panchayat system was introduced 26 years ago.

Thousands of enthusiastic Congress supporters stayed outside Kathmandu town hall on Tuesday as vote counting continued. Counting is done manually in the presence of agents of all 32 candidates contesting for mayor and deputy mayor.

Procedural disputes after the polls closed Friday had delayed the counting until late Monday, when the election commission agreed to proceed according to the advice of the Nepali Congress, witnesses said. Counting continued peacefully through Monday night and was expected to conclude Wednesday morning when the winner would be announced.

The defeat of the Nepali Congress mayorial candidates at Dharan, Biratnagar and Janakpur, three important townships southeast of Kathmandu, was considered a heavy loss for the banned organisation. Marxist-leaning leftists beat the Congress in Dharan, the native place of Gurkhas in the British Armed Forces, and Biratnagar, the birthplace of late Bisweswore Prasad Koirala, Nepal's first elected prime minister and driving force of the Nepali Congress. Congress members alleged that local officials had backed leftist candidates to defeat the Nepali Congress challenge.

The elections are being fiercely fought because local officials have gained greater power under a decentralization plan announced by King Birendra last year.

SRI LANKA

New Counter-Subversion Police Division Formed

BK030749 Colombo DAILY NEWS in English 27 Mar 87 p 1

[Text] A counter-subversion division (CSD), supported by several counter subversion units at divisional level, has been set up at police headquarters for the conduct of formal inquiries on subversive activity as well as for intelligence gathering purposes.

The new division is headed by an SP [Superintendent of Police], titled director of the CSD, and it reports to the DIG [Deputy Inspector General] in charge of crimes and operations.

Senior police sources indicated that the authorities were concerned about large numbers of dissidents attracted to the subversive groups planning acts of violence and terrorism particularly in the predominantly Sinhala areas.

"These are political activists and their objective is to overthrow the government. They have been recruiting, indoctrinating, and training cadres in secret, stealing firearms and committing robberies to raise funds," a senior officer said.

Extreme left groups including the JVP [Janata Vimukthi Peramuna], Sinhala militants linking with like-minded Tamils and the Tamil terrorists are under surveillance and investigation by the CSD, senior police sources said.

IGP [Inspector General of Police] Cyril Herath has required the existing intelligence wings of the police including the national intelligence bureaus (DIBs) to continue their regular functions and cooperate and coordinate with the CSD.

"It is very important that a very close dialogue is maintained between the NIB and the CSD and the two organisations must complement each other," the IGP has said ordering a close dialogue between the two agencies.

The police, conscious of the widespread nature of subversive activity, is backing the CSD with counter-subversive units at a divisional and district level.

AFP: Tamil Group Denies Reports of Revenge Killing

BK060650 Hong Kong AFP in English 0544 GMT 6 Apr 87

[Text] New Delhi, April 6 (AFP) — The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), the most powerful Sri Lankan rebel group, denied reports Monday that it massacred more than 150 rivals in revenge for an attempted killing of one its leaders.

The LTTE said, however, that it killed 18 prisoners of "other Tamil groups" when they tried to escape from custody. The prisoners took "advantage of the confusion" resulting from an attack last week on LTTE commander Sathasivam Krishnakumar (alias Kittu), LTTE spokesman Natheshan said by telephone from Madras, southern India.

Kittu, famed for his leadership qualities in the Tamil militant campaign for a homeland, was seriously wounded when unidentified attackers threw home-made bombs at his car in the heart of the northern Sri Lankan town of Jaffna.

Reports from Jaffna and Colombo said the LTTE immediately began rounding up members of the rival Tamil Eelam Liberation Organisation (TELO), killing more than 150. The reports said

the killings occurred at several places and that the LTTE "witch hunt" was continuing.

Spokesman Nateshan said that the reports were "malicious propaganda" aimed at discrediting the Tamil separatist struggle in the island. "The Sri Lankan media is spreading these reports to discredit us and divert world attention from the genocidal crimes committed on Tamils by its troops," he added.

Mr Nateshan said the 18 who died had seized LTTE arms before attempting to escape. "They also killed two of our fighters, before our members foiled the escape bid." He neither identified the 18 nor said exactly when the killings occurred.

The LTTE, the biggest of five major groups battling for a Tamil homeland in Sri Lanka controlled large areas of the island's Tamil-dominated north till a recent military offensive. It has clashed with TELO and EPRLF in the past and "banned" the People's Liberation Organisation of Tamil Eelam (PLOTE).

The fifth main guerrilla group, the Eelam Revolutionary Organisations (EROS), is aligned with the LTTE.

Mr. Nateshan said the LTTE killings were being "blown out of extraordinary proportion" by the Sri Lankan media and "others" in Madras where all five militant groups have offices. He said Kittu was in "a stable condition" in Jaffna and neither confirmed nor denied reports that he had had at least one leg amputated.

He added that Sri Lankan Air Force on Sunday bombarded several areas of the island's north, including Jaffna town, Velvettiturai and Thondamanar. "About three or four people died in the bombardment and several houses and buildings were damaged," he said.

Voice of Tamil Eelam Condemns Attack on LTTE Leader

BK060247 (Clandestine) Voice of Tamil Eelam in Tamil 1330 GMT 3 Apr 87

[Text] Sadasivam Krishnakumar, alias Kittu, a great leader in the liberation struggle of the people of Tamil Eelam — who are being subjected to racial suppression — and the chief commander of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam [LTTE] for Jaffna region, was seriously injured in a treacherous attempt by some anarchists last Monday [30 March] and is in critical condition. This information which has now been released is indeed painful.

The 27-year-old Kittu was appointed by Comrade Prabhakaran as Jaffna region commander of the LTTE after the martyrdom of Pandithar during Thai [a month in the Tamil calendar] in 1985.

During his leadership Jaffna region has become militarily and politically strong and has been the important center of struggle. Comrade Kittu Krishnakumar, who worked as hard as he could to compensate for the loss of Pandithar, led many attacks himself. Kittu Krishnakumar, the duty-conscious Tiger who was full of valor, a spirit of sacrifice, and a thirst for freedom, converted his region into the most important center of resistance against Sri Lankan Government forces. He has been involving thousands of young Tigers in the struggle, giving them military training, and leading a stiff struggle against the Sri Lankan Army. However, by not taking a typical military approach to the struggle and not being a warmonger, he worked with wisdom and maturity in all circumstances. Because of this, Kittu became a leader respected and honored by all. Jaffna district people had great faith in him and liked him for these kinds of qualities.

Krishnakumar was a little different from other regional LTTE leaders, and he was exemplary. It is no exaggeration to say Kittu was considered to be a friend, not only by the leaders of India and Sri Lanka, but also by the people of these countries. This man steered his vessel calmly and coolly even in a turbulent sea. Thus the occurrence of this horrible incident at a time when he had begun going along with the ideology of the Communist Party of Tamil Eelam based on Marxism-Leninism is a source of untold misery. We can say that because of this treacherous act by the anarchists, the freedom struggle of Tamil Eelam has lost a major supporter.

The Voice of Tamil Eelam, which is the authentic broadcaster of the Communist Party of Tamil Eelam, strongly condemns this act. The Voice of Tamil Eelam expresses its deep sympathy along with the people of Tamil Eelam to Comrade Kittu for this barbarous violence against him.

Indian ASLV Sabotaged by 'Evil Foreign Power'

BK031047 (Clandestine) Voice of Tamil Eelam in Tamil 1330 GMT 2 Apr 87

[Text] Indian intelligence agency experts presume that India's newly built ASLV [Augmented Satellite Launch Vehicle] rocket that was recently launched into space was sabotaged by a foreign power.

A (?senior) intelligence department officer said that an evil foreign power that does not like the Indian space research and its progress for peaceful purposes wantonly attacked and damaged the ASLV using its military equipment. He pointed out that as a result of the attack, the main engine of the ASLV was badly damaged and [words indistinct] and it crashed into the Bay of Bengal.

The officer said that the satellite of the ASLV rocket [as heard] and other ground equipment were fully tested and calibrated right in the beginning and that the ASLV was launched only with the full approval of the two committees conducting this test. He added that India does not have sophisticated equipment to detect sabotage immediately.

It is understood that it will require huge expenditures to find out how this sabotage was carried out. However, reports from authoritative sources say that the Indian scientists who are keen to find out have sought the help of Soviet scientists.

Majlis Speaker on Resuming U.S. Ties, Hostages

LD061547 Tehran IRNA in English 1519 GMT 6 Apr 87

[Text] Tehran, April 6, IRNA — Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani has said that Tehran will resume normal relations with Washington "as soon as we make sure that the U.S. no longer poses a threat to the Islamic revolution."

Speaking in an interview published here Monday, the speaker also said that Iran was still ready to help secure the release of Western hostages in Lebanon.

The imam's representative to the Supreme Defence Council (SDC) reiterated that if the superpowers "make some changes" in Iraq's leadership there would be no need for the continuation of the Iraqi-imposed war.

The speaker said in the interview carried by the Persian weekly *Keyhan Hava'i*, the overseas edition of *Keyhan* group of newspapers, that Iran has even set a condition for resumption of relations with the U.S. and that is "The U.S. (should) stop its acts of mischief."

Of course, he said, Iran has never rejected the principle of having relations with foreign governments except for those of Israel and South Africa.

On the abortive U.S. attempts to mend relations with the Islamic Republic, Rafsanjani said these efforts were aimed not only at resumption of ties with Iran but also at subverting Iran from its true anti-imperialist path.

They (Americans) wanted to attribute victories gained by Iranian forces at the war fronts not to their deep faith in Islam but to arms, Rafsanjani said. Perhaps the U.S. wanted to make Iran dependent again and use such a dependence as a weapon to impose a peace on Iran.

On the issue of Lebanon, Rafsanjani castigated Western countries for attempting to implicate Iran in having been involved in (?hostage-taking issues).

[Words indistinct) asserting our spiritual influence in Lebanon," he noted, "it is not bad for a country to have influence on a revolutionary trend in another country. Most revolutionary trends in other countries respect us."

The imam's SDC [Supreme Defense Council] representative, pointing to U.S. arms sales to Iran, said that the Americans overcharged Iran in the arms deal on the one hand and funneled the profits to Nicaraguan contras on the other. "These are dirty tricks because they (Americans) were well aware that Iran opposes the diversion of arms sale profits to the contras," he added.

The Americans covertly involved Israel in the arms sale in order to tarnish the Islamic Republic's image and misportray it as being involved in arms deals with the Qods [Jerusalem] occupying regime, speaker Rafsanjani said.

Of course, Rafsanjani said, Iran prevented a plane-load of arms from being unloaded and ordered the return of [words indistinct] consignment upon learning that Israel had been secretly involved in the deal.

The Majlis speaker furthermore said that the event revealed chinks in the U.S. armour such as the lack of cohesion among the Reagan administration, Washington's need for having ties with the Islamic revolution and U.S. weakness in Lebanon. It also belied the U.S. claim that it was not ready to pay ransom for the release of hostages in Lebanon, he added. They (Americans) who had advised France and Britain not to pay ransom paid ransom themselves, the speaker said.

"We are still ready to help secure the release of Western hostages in Lebanon solely on humanitarian grounds, although we exercise no authority in that country," he said.

The speaker added that Iran will help the U.S. with its hostages in Lebanon if Washington releases frozen Iranian assets including previously paid for arms. The release of Iranian assets by the U.S. will be interpreted as sign of Washington's diminishing hostility with Iran, stated the speaker.

On the Tower Commission, the Majlis speaker said that as far as he knew the aim of the commission was to record this historical event in a manner minimizing the damage to the U.S.'s credibility. Of course, everybody knows that this damage could not be fully undone, he said.

In addition, Rafsanjani said, Iran was one of the parties in the affair. "We have some documents and tapes concerning the clandestine visit to Iran by U.S. envoy McFarlane which might be someday publicized," the speaker noted.

Commenting on the Iraqi-imposed war, Rafsanjani said "if the superpowers make some changes in Iraq's leadership then there would be no need for the continuation of the Iraqi-imposed war."

Of course, it is difficult for the West and East to find a substitute for Saddam (Husayn) who is serving the interests of both, he concluded.

U.S. Policy Aims To Prevent Friendly Iran-USSR Ties

LD051900 Tehran IRNA in English 1830 GMT 5 Apr 87

[Text] Tehran, April 5, IRNA — A major aim of Washington's Middle East policies is focused on preventing peaceful coexistence between Tehran and Moscow by creating tensions in Irano-Soviet relations, said Iranian Ambassador to the Soviet Union Maser Hayrani-Nobari.

Nobari said in an interview published in the Persian daily *Keyhan* Sunday, that the U.S. does not want an independent country like Iran to establish friendly ties with its northern neighbor because it wants to re-establish its presence, and thus claims that the Soviet Union is a "potential danger" to Iran.

The U.S. policy, Nobari said, is based on the premise that the more tense Tehran-Moscow relations become, the better its

prospects are for returning to Iran. The Iranian ambassador noted that as a principle the Islamic Republic seeks relations with the Soviet Union based on mutual respect and non-interference in each other's internal affairs.

On the trend of Irano-Soviet relations since the victory of the 1979 Islamic revolution, Nobari said that Tehran-Moscow relations underwent "special transformations" during the post-Islamic revolution period. "There were many ups and downs in Tehran-Moscow relations because of the Soviet Union's inadequate knowledge of the true nature and realities of the Islamic revolution," he added.

Asked what effect the February visit of Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati to Moscow had on mutual relations, Nobari described the trip, the first ever made by an Iranian foreign minister in the past 50 years, as a 'turning point' in the growing trend of Irano-Soviet relations.

On an economic protocol recently signed by Tehran and Moscow, the ambassador said that parts of the agreements are being implemented. For instance, he said, some Soviet experts who had left Iran over the past years have returned and resumed work.

The protocol is of immense importance because it deals with ways to remove some of the impediments in the way of Tehran-Moscow relations which have arisen over the past few years, he said. "There has been some success" in this regard, the ambassador stated.

Questioned whether Foreign Minister Velayati had discussed Iran resuming gas exports to the Soviet Union during his visit to Moscow, Nobari said that the issue was first brought up and discussed by Iran's oil minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh during his visit to Moscow in August 1986. Both Iranian and Soviet authorities later endorsed the agreements reached by Aqazadeh and Soviet officials on Iran's resumption of gas exports to Moscow, he added, noting that Iranian and Soviet experts are now studying technical aspects relevant to the issue.

In response to a question on the Soviet Union's stance on the Iraqi-imposed war, the Iranian ambassador said that the Soviets' official stand on the war is that they want an end to it, and would like the warring sides to begin peace negotiations.

Of course, Nobari said, Iranian officials have fully informed Soviet officials of Iran's stand on the Iraqi-imposed war and made it clear that just as the Soviet people suppressed Hitler's aggression, Iran, too, is justified in suppressing and punish the aggressor Saddam (Husayn). "The Soviets provided no firm reasoning to dissuade us in our arguments," Nobari said.

Nobody in the world is qualified to reject Iran's legitimate plea for punishment of the aggressor, Saddam Husayn, Nobari remarked.

In light of Iran's strong logical stand and the fact that Iranian forces hold the upper hand at the war fronts, world governments are gradually being forced to accept the Iranian stand on the war, Nobari said.

President Khamene'i Meets With Montazeri 6 Apr

LD071051 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Apr 87

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, President Khamene'i met the deputy leader [Qa'em Magam-e Rahbari], Grand Ayatollah Montazeri, last night.

Communique No 2,798 Reports 5-6 Apr Fighting

LD061545 Tehran IRNA in English 1535 GMT 6 Apr 87

[Text] Tehran, April 6, IRNA — Two Iraqi warplanes were shot down over the southern Iranian waters by Iranian anti-aircraft fire between 05:00 GMT and 05:04 GMT Monday.

There is yet no immediate reports on the fate of the planes' pilots, said a military communique here today.

Joint Staff Communique Number 2798 said that Iranian long range artillery fire heavily shelled Iraq's Al-'Amyah and Al-Bakr oil platforms in the north-eastern Persian Gulf Sunday, inflicting heavy damage on them.

Iranian Gendarmerie Forces killed a number of Iraqi soldiers and destroyed 15 enemy gun emplacements in parts of the southern and western fronts Sunday.

One anti-aircraft gun and one munitions dump of Iraqi forces were set ablaze in a Western theater by artillery fire of Iranian Muslim combatants yesterday.

In the northwestern fronts Sunday, Muslim forces of Iran opened artillery and mortar fire on Iraqi positions, destroying several enemy batteries and gun emplacements and silencing their fire.

Iranian Muslim combatants despatched several patrol convoys towards pre-determined targets of Iraqi forces in the western fronts Sunday, inflicting heavy casualties and losses on enemy troops.

Enemy engineering operations were also disrupted.

Movement of Iraqi logistical columns was checked in Sumar and its surrounding heights Sunday.

Iranian artillery fire inflicted heavy casualties and losses on an Iraqi infantry unit and on enemy tanks in Nahr 'Anbar and 'Eynkhosh, southern fronts, Sunday, the communique concluded.

Victories Near Fish Canal Cited

LD070735 Tehran IRNA in English 0733 GMT 7 Apr 87

[Text] Tehran, April 7, IRNA — Muslim combatants of Iran achieved fresh victories in southern fronts by dealing another blow on the Iraqi enemy, Monday night.

In this operation, launched west of the Fish Canal, heavy casualties and damage were inflicted on the Iraqi troops.

'Karbala'-8' Operation Launched Near Basra 6 Apr

LD070754 Tehran IRNA in English 0753 GMT 7 Apr 87

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., April 7, IRNA — A new operation, Karbala'-8, was launched east of Basra with the thrust of Muslim forces of Iran deep into Iraqi positions, Monday night.

Iraqi Headquarters Captured

LD070840 Tehran IRNA in English 0832 GMT 7 Apr 87

[Text] Tehran, April 7, IRNA — Headquarters of Iraqi battalions one and four of Brigade 417 were captured by the Muslim forces of Iran in the Karbala'-8 operations, launched east of Basra early Tuesday morning.

A report from Khatem-ol-Anbiya' headquarters said that Muslim combatants of Iran also smashed 80 percent of armoured equipment and personnel of battalions one, two and four of Brigade 417.

In this operation Iranian forces destroyed defensive fortifications of the enemy and a number of their command headquarters, killing or injuring a large number of enemy forces and capturing a number of others.

2,000 Casualties Noted

LD070823 Tehran IRNA in English 0820 GMT 7 Apr 87

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., April 7, IRNA — Muslim forces of Iran in response to the recent Iraqi acts of mischief in the Persian Gulf and its attacks on Iranian oil installations, launched a new operation, Karbala'-8, east of Basra, early Tuesday morning. In the operation, Muslim combatants of Iran advanced west of the Fish Canal towards the Dual Canal, capturing new areas.

In Karbala'-8 operations, launched amidst ceremonies marking the anniversary of the founding of the Ba'th Party in Iraq, at least 2,000 Iraqi troops were killed or wounded. A group of captured Iraqis are being transferred behind the war fronts. Tens of tanks and armoured personnel carriers were also destroyed by the Muslim forces in the operations.

Iraqi Plane Downed

LD070836 Tehran IRNA in English 0829 GMT 7 Apr 87

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., April 7, IRNA — An Iraqi fighter bomber was shot down in the theater of Karbala'-8 operations, started Tuesday morning in the southern fronts.

The fighter bomber, intending to bombard areas liberated by Muslim combatants of Iran during these operations was shot down before carrying out any mission.

Meanwhile, Iranian Air Force planes heavily bombed Iraqi positions east of Basra twice Tuesday morning. The planes returned to bases safely after inflicting heavy casualties and losses upon the enemy.

Iranian airborne troopers (air support for the ground forces) continue to inflict new blows upon the enemy forcing them to retreat with no place left to run. The airborne fighters set afire tens of Iraqi tanks, personnel carriers, armoured vehicles and military equipment during their Tuesday morning operations.

Iraqi Positions Bombed 4 Times

LD070845 Tehran IRNA in English 0836 GMT 7 Apr 87

[Text] Tehran, April 7, IRNA — Iranian Air Force jet fighters heavily bombed enemy positions, fortifications and concentration sites in Karbala'-8 operational theater four times Tuesday morning.

The Khatem ol-Anbiya' headquarters reported that the attacks were carried out at 08:30, 08:48, 10:14 and 10:30 hours local time (05:00, 05:18, 06:44 and 07:00 hours GMT) Tuesday.

The jet fighters returned to their bases safely after inflicting heavy losses on the enemy.

'New Areas' Captured

LD070924 Tehran IRNA in English 0916 GMT 7 Apr 87

[Text] Tehran, April 7, IRNA — Iraqi Brigades 106 and 418 both suffered damage totalling 50 percent in the Karbala'-8 operations launched by Muslim combatants of Iran east of Basra, Tuesday morning. The Khatem ol-Anbiya' headquarters further reported that the Muslim combatants also captured new areas in the operations.

Meanwhile, a large number of Iraqi tanks, personnel carriers, vehicles and engineering equipment were demolished and a considerable amount of their military equipment seized undamaged.

In the surprise operations, launched east of Basra, modern warfare tactics were employed with Iranian troops infiltrating two kilometers into enemy defence lines, passing through barbed wire, mine fields numerous canals, concrete barriers and other previously-thought impregnable enemy defences.

Iraqi Casualties Updated

LD070929 Tehran IRNA in English 0920 GMT 7 Apr 87

[Text] Tehran, April 7, IRNA — Iraqi special forces of Brigade 65 sustained casualties and losses amounting to 40 percent in Iran's Karbala'-8 operations launched Tuesday morning. More than 2000 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded in the operations and a number of others captured. So far 45 captives have been transferred behind the fronts.

2 Counterattacks 'Crushed'

LD071013 Tehran IRNA in English 1008 GMT 7 Apr 87

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., April 7, IRNA — Two Iraqi counterattacks in Karbala'-8 operational region, were crushed by

the Muslim forces of Iran, Tuesday morning. The regrouped enemy forces attempted the two counterattacks, east of Basra, on newly gained positions of the Muslim combatants of Iran. The Iraqi troops were forced to retreat both times leaving behind casualties and sustaining damage.

50 Iraqi Tanks Destroyed

LD071044 Tehran IRNA in English 1037 GMT 7 Apr 87

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., April 7, IRNA — At least 50 advanced Iraqi tanks, personnel carriers and vehicles carrying personnel were demolished by Iranian anti-armoured forces in the Karbala'-8 operational theater Tuesday morning. Smoke from the destroyed enemy equipmment is said to be blanketing the operational theater.

New Positions Gained

LD070844 Tehran IRNA in English 0834 GMT 7 Apr 87

[Text] Tehran, April 7, IRNA — The fresh Iranian assault, Karbala'-8, was launched in retaliation for Iraqi attacks on Iranian economic resources and its disrupting of security of shipping in the Persian Gulf waters, said a Khatem-ol-Anbiya' headquarters statement issued Tuesday.

According to the statement the Muslim forces of Iran launched the operations codenamed "Ya Saheb-az-Zaman," east of the Iraqi port city of Basra, early Tuesday.

The Muslim forces of Iran in their latest operations are advancing and have gained new positions, killing or wounding a large number of Iraqi troops.

Peshmergas Kill Iraqi Troops in Al-Sulaymaniyah

LD070856 Tehran IRNA in English 0850 GMT 7 Apr 87

[Text] Tehran, April 7, IRNA — Peshmergas of Iraqi Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) infiltrated the Iraqi city of Al-Sulaymaniyah, northern Iraq, and killed a group of Iraqi Ba'thist troops over the past few days.

Ramadhan Headquarters Center for Irregular Warfare announced that in the operations ten Iraqi Ba'thists and disciplinary forces including longtime member of the Sulaymaniyah branch of the Ba'th Party, Rashid Nasrullah, who recently received a medallion from Saddam, were captured.

In the meantime, a group of enemy forces were attacked on the Mosul-Irbil road on March 31, ten Iraqi forces were killed and several others captured, and a number of weapons and military vehicles and munitions seized intact.

Former Prime Minister Bazargan Issues New Statement

TA061224 (Clandestine) Voice of the Kavyani Banner in Persian 1630 GMT 5 Apr 87

[Text] Mehdi Bazargan, who served as the first prime minister of Khomeyni's backward regime and who played a significant role in bringing this regime to power and creating the misery to which Iran and Iranians have been subjected, is continuing his dubious opposition to his mullah masters and has issued a new statement in Tehran.

Reports from the capital indicate that Mehdi Bazargan's Freedom Movement, in its statement, once again condemned the prolongation of the Iran-Iraq war and criticized the policy being pursued by the mullahs. One of the sponsors of this policy was the Freedom Movement itself.

One part of Mehdi Bazargan's statement says: Since the outset of the revolution, Iran's revenues from the sale of oil have exceeded $130 billion. However, instead of being put to use maintaining the security and defense of Iran's border towns with Iraq, it is unclear how this money was spent. According to Mehdi Bazargan, this was the minimum that the regime could have accomplished by utilizing the oil revenues.

Furthermore, in his statement Bazargan noted that according to the imam, the Islamic Republic is the first Islamic government in 1,400 years. At the same time, however, the necessity of continuing to wage the war down to the last person is being affirmed. Here, Bazargan says: Should the war continue and the last individual also be killed, then no trace of divine rule will remain.

The prime minister of the accursed regime's provisional government then attacks Khomeyni directly, saying: It is due to the obstinacy of certain individuals that this war has been prolonged. It seems that all of us have been born merely to die in this war.

VII.	WESTERN EUROPE DAILY REPORT	Contents unchanged
VIII.	SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA DAILY REPORT	Renamed; formerly SOUTH ASIA DAILY REPORT; contents include: International Affairs Inter-African Affairs Central Africa Burundi Cameroon Central African Republic Congo Equatorial Guinea Gabon Rwanda Sao Tome & Principe Zaire East Africa Djibouti Ethiopia Kenya Somalia Tanzania Uganda Indian Ocean Comoros Madagascar Mauritius Seychelles Southern Africa Angola Botswana Lesotho Malawi Mozambique Namibia Republic of South Africa Reunion Swaziland Zambia Zimbabwe Western Africa Benin Burkina Faso Cape Verde Islands The Gambia Ghana Guinea Guinea-Bissau Ivory Coast Liberia Mali Niger Nigeria Senegal Sierra Leone Togo

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